



UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE (UEC) MEETING

June 20, 2014
10:00 AM - A225
Abbotsford Campus

APPROVED MINUTES

PRESENT: Maria Bos-Chan, Sue Brigden, Tara Cooper, John English, Darren Francis, Shirley Hardman, Stan Manu, Steven Marsh, David McGuire, Rod McLeod, Samantha Pattridge (chair), Eric Spalding, Les Stagg, Jenna White, Simon Xi
ABSENT: Satwinder Bains, Rhonda Colwell, Heather Compeau, Vlad Dvoracek, Susan Fisher, Nancy Goad, Anthony Iliev, Judy Larsen, Maureen Wideman
GUESTS: John Carroll, Peter Geller, Arlene Leon, Sylvie Murray
RECORDER: Amanda Grimson

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION:

To approve the agenda as presented.
CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF UEC MINUTES

2.1. UEC draft minutes: May 23, 2014

MOTION:

To approve the draft minutes as presented.
CARRIED

3. COURSE OUTLINES

3.1. Business Administration

New course: BUS 448, Advanced Management Accounting

Changes to course: BUS 403

Changes including prerequisites: BUS 404

MOTION:

To approve the Business Administration course outlines as presented.
CARRIED

3.2. Geography

Change to prerequisites: GEOG 311, 318

MOTION:

To approve the Geography course outlines as presented.
CARRIED

4. PROGRAMS

4.1. Business Administration

Change to program: Bachelor of Business Administration

Change to program: BBA Accounting option

MOTION:

MOTION: To recommend the approval of the changes to the Bachelor of Business Administration entrance requirements as amended, effective January 2015:

- A minimum of 30 credits transferrable to the BBA, with a minimum GPA of 2.67 calculated on all those credits that would be applicable to the BBA.

CARRIED

MOTION:

MOTION: To recommend the approval of the changes to the program requirements for the BBA Accounting option as amended, effective January 2015:

- Elective will be removed, as it is redundant.

CARRIED

4.2. English

New program: English Honours: Creative Writing

This item was postponed from the May 23, 2014 UEC meeting. The English department has resubmitted a revised proposal, indicating that this program can be completed within 120 credits.

MOTION:

To recommend approval of the new English Honours: Creative Writing program as revised, effective January 2015.

CARRIED

4.3. Applied and Technical Studies

Name change: Heavy Mechanical Foundation program

The program was recently changed to align with others in the province, but the name was not changed at that time. This new name will be consistent with other programs in B.C.

MOTION:

MOTION: To approve the name change of the Heavy Duty/Commercial Transport certificate program to the Heavy Mechanical Foundation certificate as presented.

CARRIED

4.4. Indigenous Studies

New programs: Indigenous Studies major and minor (Bachelor of Arts)

These are presented differently from other BA majors and minors, as those are discipline-based while these are interdisciplinary and cross four faculties.

S. Hardman (Senior Advisor on Indigenous Affairs) noted that "Indigenous" has become the word of choice, rather than "Aboriginal" or "First Nations".

MOTION:

MOTION: To recommend the approval of the new Indigenous Studies major and minor for the Bachelor of Arts as presented.

CARRIED

4.5. Communications

New program: Bachelor of Professional Communication

S. Pattridge (Communications department head and UEC Chair) turned the chair over to D. Francis (Vice-Chair) for this item.

The proposed Bachelor of Professional Communication (BPC) program is a three year, 90-credit degree. Since UFV has not previously offered a three-year degree program and the current Graduation Awards policy states that a bachelor's degree will "normally" consist of 120 credits, approval of this program will set a precedent. This would also be the first program of its kind in B.C., although all other provinces currently offer 90-credit degrees.

Regardless of what other institutions are offering, it is UFV's responsibility to ensure that a 90-credit degree is academically sound. S. Pattridge indicated that the program outcomes for this degree are comparable to four-year degrees, and for many students, such as those entering with industry experience, the program will essentially start at the second-year level.

The committee questioned how graduate programs view 90-credit degrees, and whether they are considered equivalent to traditional bachelor's degrees. S. Pattridge noted that initial informal discussions with Royal Roads have indicated that the BPC should qualify students for entrance into a Master's program there.

External reviews of this program have been positive.

Minor revisions were suggested, such as the addition of CMNS 155 and 175 to Option 2 of the entrance requirements, and a note that advising will be through the Arts Advice Centre. It was also noted that BUS 223, included in the additional degree requirements list, may no longer be offered. S. Pattridge will supply a revised proposal for submission to APPC and Senate.

MOTION:

MOTION:

To recommend the approval of the new 90-credit Bachelor of Professional Communication degree program as amended:

- Entrance requirements, Option 2: "Applicants must also demonstrate through their portfolio that they possess superior writing skills and meet the course outcomes for CMNS 125, CMNS 155, or CMNS 175."

CARRIED

5. OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1. Short Programs Subcommittee report

S. Murray (subcommittee chair) indicated that this subcommittee requires additional time to complete its work, and requested that its mandate be extended until December.

MOTION:

MOTION: To extend the mandate of the Short Programs Subcommittee to December 2014.

CARRIED

MOTION:

To arrange for the appointment of a Dean to replace Susan Fisher; and to add the Continuing Education Director to the Short Programs Subcommittee.

CARRIED

5.2. Course requisites policy

E. Harris (Associate Registrar) requested input from UEC on proposed revisions to the Course requisites policy (84). UEC supported the principle that prerequisites should be as minimal as possible. The revised policy should emphasize both accessibility and flexibility, and ideally should be phrased positively ("to ensure optimum access" or "to facilitate access") rather than negatively ("to avoid unnecessary barriers to student access").

The draft policy included the suggestion that the calendar notice period be reduced to six months due to two calendar publications per year. UEC supported this change.

Additional comments or suggestions should be sent to E. Harris.

5.3. Alternatives to cross-listing

D. Francis (Deputy Registrar and Vice Chair) presented the possibility of cross-scheduling as an alternative to cross-listing. This would be a subtle but important distinction. Cross-scheduled courses would be synonymous and offered in the same room, but would belong to different programs and could have different prerequisites.

BCCAT regularly questions UFV's practice of cross-listing, and cross-listed courses often create problems for departments.

UEC was in general support of the idea of cross-scheduling, although there should be a mechanism to ensure that cross-scheduled outlines are updated simultaneously as required.

5.4. Admissions Subcommittee report

There was no report from this subcommittee.

5.5. Transfer Credit Subcommittee report

There was no report from this subcommittee.

5.6. Policy Subcommittee report

R. McLeod (subcommittee chair) indicated that the Policy Subcommittee is getting ready to send the Assignment of Course Credit policy (105) for approval.

5.7. Election of Chair (must be a faculty member of UEC)

S. Pattridge will not accept a nomination to continue as chair for 2014/15. D. Francis publicly thanked S. Pattridge for her work as chair of UEC since its inception in February 2011.

An election for the 2014/15 chair will take place at the August 29, 2014 meeting.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1. Agriculture

Apprenticeship program: Landscape Horticulture Apprenticeship Level 1

6.2. UEC 2014/15 meeting schedule

6.3. Minor course changes (outlines will be available at www.ufv.ca/calendar/courseoutlines)

CMNS 465 (formerly CMNS 365)

6.4. Approval process update

APPC has recently determined that they no longer need to see major program changes in most cases, and have recommended this change to Senate for September.

SBC also does not need to see major program changes unless the changes have major budget implications. A finance representative will sit on the UEC Screening Subcommittee to assist in this determination.

These changes to the approval process are still pending approval by SGC and Senate.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.